

REMARKS

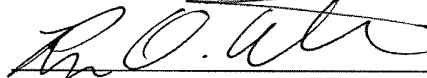
Prior to this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-73 were pending. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants do not acquiesce in the Examiner's determination of separate inventions, however, in order to expedite prosecution of the present application, Applicants hereby elect to restrict examination to the invention identified by the Examiner as Invention I, claims 1-42 and 60-73. Accordingly, claims 43-59 are now cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Moreover, Applicants also reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications on the non-elected claims with the understanding that such claims filed in any such divisional application(s) will not be subject to a double-patenting rejection.

If necessary, Applicants request that this response be considered a request for an extension of time appropriate for the response to be timely filed. Applicants request that any required fees needed beyond those submitted with this response be charged to the deposit account of Bose McKinney & Evans, Deposit Account No. 02-3223.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below should any question or comments arise during the course of consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted, .

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